Claim 1 (twice amended)

A copper chromite catalyst having a final [the] molar composition

$Cu_{(a)}Cr_{(b)}Al_{(c)}Zn_{(d)}$

wherein a = 10 – 40 mole %

b = 10 – 40 mole %

c = 10 – 30 mole %

d = 5 – 40 mole %

and a + b + c + d = 100

and having an intermediate molar composition before calcination and reduction of about Cu + Cr = 50 mol%, Zn = 20 mol% and Al = 30 mol%

and having an XRD pattern as shown in table 1

Table I: XRD analysis of the copper chromite catalyst

θ	Intensity (%)
18	100
26.2	100
27.4	48
35.8	92
44.2	48
56.6	44

Claim 2 (twice amended)

A process for the preparation of a copper chromite catalyst having a final [the] molar composition

$Cu_{(a)}Cr_{(b)}Al_{(c)}Zn_{(d)}$

wherein a = 10 – 40 mole %

b = 10 – 40 mole %

c = 10 – 30 mole %

d = 5 – 40 mole %

and a + b + c + d = 100

and having an intermediate molar composition before calcination and reduction of about Cu + Cr = 50 mol%, Zn = 20 mol% and Al = 30 mol%

and having an XRD pattern as shown in table 1

Table I: XRD analysis of the copper chromite catalyst

θ	Intensity (%)
18	100
26.2	100
27.4	48
35.8	92
44.2	48
56.6	44

which comprises preparing an aqueous solution of a source of copper, a source of aluminium and a source of zinc, adding to this solution a solution containing a source of chromium, under stirring conditions to obtain a precipitate, separating the precipitate, drying the precipitate at a temperature ranging between 80 to 110°C, calcining the dried material in static air at a temperature ranging between 200 to 500°C for a period ranging between 2 to 5 hrs., to obtain the catalyst.